

"LOVE THE LORD WITH ALL THY HEART"

by FR. VIALI, SSJE

Thou shalt love the Lord Thy God with all thy heart. Matt. 22:37

In the new Testament, especially in Acts, there are indications that the earliest Christians named their religion the Way, that is the road. A road is a means of reaching one place from another and it is always the result of some one desiring to go thither. No doubt it was because the first Christians knew with St. John that Jesus is the Way that they adopted this name for their religion. It is important to note that Jesus is the Way, their Way and ours to God, because He is God's way to us. Neither they nor we make the road to God. He came first to where they were and where we are and so we can by that same Way go to Him: that is, by that way of life which was Jesus we too reach unto God. Jesus' way of life was the way of loving obedience to the will of the Heavenly Father. Jesus shows perfectly what it means to love God wholly. Every Christian, therefore, is bound to make the Father's will the rule of his life.

But in practice we find that there are hindrances to living as Jesus lived, obstacles which block this Way to God. The obstacles which often prevent us from practicing the love of God are the love of things, the love of parents and the love of self.

There are not many materialists who love things for the things themselves. But we do have a certain love of things, usually because we want them for our comfort or security or for our families and friends. The things of this world are the gifts of God but all too often we put a false value on them. The falsity of our valuing things lies in thinking of them chiefly in relation to ourselves. The true value of anything is its value in God's sight and to Him. The meaning of our Lord's words, "Blessed are the poor in Spirit, for theirs is the Kingdom of Heaven", is that the riches of God belong not to those who do not have what the world calls wealth of possessions but to those who value all things at their true value, who know that all things are God's and that we can have only the use of them, not ownership or possession. "A man's life consisteth not in the abundance of the things he possesseth". This is the lesson we may learn from the life and example of our Lord Jesus Christ.

For most of us the desire for things is not a purely selfish one. It is related to our love of persons. But here again we tend to forget our Lord's teaching and example. People have no absolute worth apart from their value in the sight of God and to Him. But in our relationships there is too often unrecognized a false value placed on those we love, a value that we base consciously or unconsciously on their relationship to ourselves. The true value of anyone is what he is worth to God. How easy it is to be hindered in doing what we know to be right because of what our friends will say. Is it not true in our own experience that a man's foes are they of his own household.

But generally the chief obstacle to running the way of eternal life is my self. "I want what I want. Why should I obey when others seem to get away with doing what they please? Too often our prayer is "My will be done. But surely obedience was

ISSEI SERVICES

Sat. Oct. 23 Evensong with Sermon, Father Viall SSJE
7:30 P.M. at Rec. Hall 10

Sun. Oct. 24 Holy Eucharist -- 7:00 A.M.
West End at Rec. Hall 10 Fr. Kitagawa
East End at 32-12, Fr. Shoji
Evensong with Sermon by Fr. Viall, SSJE
7:30 P.M. at 32-12

NISEI SERVICES

Sun. Oct. 24 Holy Eucharist with Sermon, Fr. Viall, SSJE
8:00 A.M. at Rec. Hall 10
Church School, Frank Watanabe, Sup't.
10:45 A.M. At Rec. Hall 10

Holy Eucharist with Sermon, Fr. Viall
9:30 A.M. at 32-12
Church School, Mary Tahara, Sup't.
10:30 A.M. at 32-12
Joint Service with Twin Falls Young Peop
7:30 P.M. 32-12
Evensong with Sermon by Fr. Viall, SSJE.

Weekdays (Mondays through Saturday)

6:45 A.M. Holy Eucharist in the Church
Chapel 22-3-D

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the characteristic of Jesus' life. He tells us by example and by His words too, "If ye love me, ye will keep My commandments." St. Augustine said: "Love God and do what you please." But that means that, if we love God, what we please will always be what pleases God. If we love Him, we shall be pleased to do what He wants done.

The three virtues of Poverty, Chastity, and Obedience are the means to overcome the three obstacles to the Love of God. Poverty means to value things aright. Chastity means to value persons as God values them, Obedience means true humility, valuing self only at what we are in God's sight. These virtues are of obligation on all Christians. Yet in the Church there have been those since the earliest days who in order to reach God by this living way have dedicated themselves to Him with vows which safeguard these virtues. Monks and nuns are not the only Christians but they are those whose special vocation it is to seek to tread this living way to God by means of limitation of sphere. Their method is but one method of the Way but they bear a valuable witness to the fact that all Christians are bound to use some method to cultivate these great virtues which can help us to keep this first and great commandment by overcoming the threefold obstacles which we find in experience hinders us from reaching God by this living, loving Way.

IN THE MAIL BAG

From Joseph Shoji at the Phi Phi Delta House, Geneva, New York comes: Nearly two months has lapsed since my departure from the relocation center. During this time many interesting and eventful happenings have occurred. Today it is raining hard, so I am relaxing very cozily here in my room....I have no time for extra-curricular activity, except that I am assuming regular duties as an Acolyte here at the Chapel....Jim Kenyon one of my chums studying for the ministry has a miniature altar in his room where the three of us (Walter Mitchell) occasionally hold morning prayers before breakfast..... Grace, Florence and Ruth are all fine, and I see them every day on the campus. They are all getting along fine with the students here and do not seem to be a bit homesick..... Regards to all.

Alice Kuniko Uchida writes from Kemper Hall: It's swell here and I guess I have to thank you for all of this. Of course I get homesick sometimes but usually I'm O.K.. Sometimes at night Mabel and I talk of good old Hunt and that helps our dreams. Love to all

Again we hear from Alice Togo in Poughkeepsie, New York. Last Sunday evening Rhoda and I were asked to meet informally with a group of high school boys and girls (a Methodist or Presbyterian group) to talk about the relocation centers and the Japanese Americans. We had lots of fun... I got an invitation to spend the weekend of October 23-24 with Mrs. Breed at Cornwall-on-the-Hudson. I'll go down Saturday afternoon and I probably will come back Sunday evening. It will be the first week-end I have taken off, and I am looking forward to it.

Florence Anazawa writes from William Smith, Geneva, New York--Next week is the end of this term and we will have a week's vacation. I've been invited to a girl's home in Rochester but don't know as yet whether to go..... Otherwise I'm having a super time. The kids are really nice. Please give my regards to all.

From Sammy Ishibashi comes word from Danbury, Conn. The school here did not actually start until the 24th of September. All the boys are nice. One of the boys has invited me over for Thanksgiving Dinner.

THE COLLECT

Lord, we beseech thee, grant thy people grace to withstand the temptations of the world, the flesh, and the devil; and with pure hearts and minds to follow thee, the only God; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

FLASH!

There will be an important meeting of the Vestry at the Church Office 22-3-D from 7:30 P. M. Friday October 29th.

A meeting of Junior Daughters of the King will be held Monday evening at the Church Office, 22-3-D from 7:00 P. M., October 25th. All girls are asked to attend

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The Church, of the Holy Apostles gratefully acknowledges the generous donation from one our people a birthday offering by Masako Kawaguchi.

VISITORS

We had with us as visitors this week three men from the Army, Pfc. Fred Nagaro, Pvt. Satoru Onodera, and Pvt. Charles Hirakawa. We are glad to have them with us.

Yesterday Mr. Wynne, asked me if I wanted to go to New York to see a Shakespearean play "Othello" on the 18th of November with the other boys. It will be my first experience in a New York playhouse, so I am a bit excited. Best regards.

Shig Uchida writes from Idaho Falls, on his well being. Pvt. Willie Tahara of Camp Shelby also writes.